



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Reminiscences of the Civil War and other Sketches is the title of a twenty-six page pamphlet by Ralph J. Smith, of San Marcos. Mr. Smith belonged to Company K, Second Texas Infantry. The company was organized by Clark Owen in Jackson county and ordered to Houston in October, 1861. In March of the next year it was ordered to the front and participated in the battle of Shiloh, April 6th. In this battle the author was wounded and captured, and spent the next six months in Northern prisons recuperating. After being exchanged, he rejoined his command, and served in and near Vicksburg. The fall of Vicksburg again made him a prisoner, but he was soon paroled and came home. Having been assured of his exchange, he again entered the service in October, 1863, but spent most of the time at Galveston till the close of the war.

The author does not pretend to write history. The reminiscences concerning his personal adventures and of such men as Colonels John C. Moore and Ashbel Smith are told in language that is sometimes quite picturesque. W.

Hood's Texas Brigade, Its Marches, Battles, and Achievements. By J. B. Polley. [New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Company, 1910. Pp. 347.]

It is safe to say that no single brigade on either side in the Civil War gained greater or more merited fame than Hood's Texas Brigade. Composed at first of the First, Fourth, and Fifth Texas, the Eighteenth Georgia, and Hampton's Legion from South Carolina, and later of the three Texas regiments and the Third Arkansas, and serving most of the time in the division of its favorite commander, John B. Hood, it has always clung to its distinctive name. Proud of its reputation, the survivors have maintained an active organization, erected to their comrades a monument in Austin, and have commissioned one of their number to write "a fair and impartial history" of its career and services.

Mr. Polley has executed his commission most admirably; the volume is well conceived and well written. The greater part of the story is compiled from the memories and diaries of the author and his surviving comrades, but it is substantiated by the official records as far as they have been preserved. Naturally enough,

the narrative reflects the experiences of the private in the ranks more than that of the officer, and is not the less interesting for doing that; but still it presents a fairly adequate view of the general problems of the several campaigns and thus gives to the work of the brigade its proper setting. The author's happy style has made the book very readable, very unlike the great bulk of regimental and brigade histories that are content with little more than muster rolls and the bare recital of marches and battles and losses. Humor and tragedy are mingled in genuine reflection of the life of the camp; but tragedy predominates, for we know that the ever-decimating regiments are fighting against inevitable defeat. He must be phlegmatic, indeed, who can follow without a thrill of wonder and admiration this intimate story of the weary marches, the perilous skirmishes, and the desperate charges of those poorly clad and poorly fed troops, and of the splendid fighting spirit they maintained throughout it all from Eltham's Landing to Appomattox.

The volume is illustrated with some twenty portraits, chiefly of survivors of the brigade. It contains at the end two lists: one of all officers and men who were enlisted in the Texas regiments during the war, another, in painful contrast, the meager remnant that surrendered at Appomattox.

CHAS. W. RAMSDELL.

A Texas Pioneer. By August Santleben, edited by I. D. Affleck. [New York and Washington: The Neale Publishing Company, 1910. Pp. 321.]

The parents of August Santleben came to Texas from Germany in 1845, when he was only a few months old. He grew up on the frontier near Castroville and served as a mail-carrier, a private in E. J. Davis's regiment—the First Texas (Union) Cavalry—1863-1865, as a stage driver, 1866-1867, and as a freight-contractor between San Antonio and Monterey, Saltillo and Chihuahua, 1867-1877. In later years he has been engaged in business and politics in San Antonio.

His autobiography, though concerned chiefly with personal experiences, nevertheless, presents an interesting picture of the ante-railroad days on both sides of the Rio Grande, and especially of